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Parliamentarians for East Timor
244A Upper Street, London N1 1RU

MESSAGE TO THE NATIONAL EAST TIMOR PROTEST
FROM LORD AVEBURY
CHAIRMAN PARLIAMENTARY HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP UK
CO-FOUNDER, WITH TONY LAMB AND SATSUKI EDA,
PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR EAST TIMOR

November 26, 1989

Best wishes to friends of East Timor, meeting at Parliament House, Canberra on Monday November 27.

I hope you might ask the UN Secretary General to comply with the provisions of the UN General Assembly Resolution of November 1982. As you know, he was required to consult with 'all the parties concerned', in deciding the political future of East Timor, and this means a plebiscite, as demanded by Bishop Belo of Dili.

In the meanwhile, any purported agreement by Indonesia and Australia on the exploitation of seabed resources in between East Timor and Australia is a violation of international law, and an act of aggression against the people of East Timor.

The brave people who demonstrated in favour of independence at the Mass celebrated by His Holiness the Pope during his recent visit proved that even after 14 years of Indonesian military occupation and brutal repression, the spirit of independence lives and floursihes in the hearts of the people of East Timor. Your meeting will show that Australians are not prepared to barter another people's liberties in return for the friendship of a corrupt and vicious military dictatorship.

Eric Avebury